

## HB 3504 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Education

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**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 3/3, 3/17

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure appropriates \$2.054 million from the General Fund to the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission for nine full-time staff positions to support student safety and adult accountability. The measure declares an emergency and takes effect July 1, 2025.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Teacher Standards and Practices Commission investigations backlog
- Number of reports received by Commission

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

#### BACKGROUND:

The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) was established in 1965. Prior to that time, the State Board of Education (SBE) oversaw licensing of teachers and Oregon had a separate commission on teacher tenure. Originally, TSPC was responsible for conducting a study and making recommendations to SBE, and TSPC was staffed by the Oregon Department of Education (ODE). Changes to the law in 1973 allowed TSPC to hire its own staff, including an executive secretary. In 1997, the law changed again, allowing TSPC to hire an executive director.

Currently, TSPC consists of a 17-member commission supported by full-time equivalent (FTE) staff. The agency is responsible for issuing licenses, approving educator preparation programs, approving nontraditional pathways to educator licensure, approving professional development for license renewals, and investigating educator misconduct. TSPC operations are fee-funded.

In [testimony relating to Senate Bill 324 \(2025\)](#), the Interim Executive Director of TSPC provided the following information:

- In 2024, the agency took an average of 13.2 months to complete investigations.
- In 2024, the agency completed 175 investigations but opened 463 new cases.
- As of January 28, 2025 there were 515 cases pending investigation.